

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Safety top balustrade for a car of a machine room-less elevator which moves in a hoistway, on a wall of which ~~the~~a controller of the elevator is secured, said balustrade comprising:

a fixed structure (21) comprising a plurality of vertical uprights (24) ~~fixed~~located at intervals near the edge of the car roof (16) and at least two horizontal tubular guard rails (20, 30) fixed at different heights on the uprights, ~~around the fixed structure located around at least a portion of the periphery of the car roof, except at the place which is in front of the controller (14) when the car is at the level of the controller, in order to leave a passage (33) for direct access to the latter,~~

a mobile structure (34) comprising at least two horizontal bars (36, 38) ~~which that~~ are telescopically mounted inside the tubular guard rails, so as to slide between an open position where the bars are inserted within the guard rails, ~~to free said passage towards the controller,~~ and a closed position where the bars are extended out of the guard rails, ~~whereby said passage is obstructed~~

wherein the mobile structure is positioned along the edge of the car roof so as to allow access to the controller mounted in the hoistway.

2. (Currently Amended) Balustrade according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein a bridge (42) comprising a horizontal plate is slidably mounted on the roof (16) of the car between a retracted position in which it is placed completely on the roof, and an extended position in which a portion of the bridge protrudes outside of the roof across the space between the car (18) and the wall (12) of the hoistway ~~on which the controller is fixed~~so as to allow access to the controller mounted in the hoistway.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) Balustrade according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the bars (36, 38) of the mobile structure are connected at their ends by a vertical cross bar (40) ~~which that~~ acts as an abutting element and which allows the mobile structure to be moved integrally.

5. (Currently Amended) Balustrade according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the mobile structure (34) is secured in its retracted position or in its extended position by means

of locking elements ~~(46)~~, such as pins or bolts ~~(46)~~ inserted through holes drilled in the guard rails and the bars.

6. (Currently Amended) Balustrade according to one of the ~~preceeding~~ preceding claims, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the guard rails ~~(26, 30)~~ and the bars ~~(36, 38)~~ have a square section and are made of steel.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY